

2019 NALP ADVOCACY TALKING POINTS



PESTICIDE REGULATION

KEY TALKING POINTS

- NALP members help homeowners and businesses maintain their lawns and landscapes and take pride in their communities.
- Healthy lawns and landscapes benefit the entire environment by: cooling the earth, removing carbon dioxide and other pollutants from the air and protecting water sources from unhealthy runoff
- Properly maintained and managed landscapes reduce the dangerous and deadly diseases transmitted from biting and stinging insects such as: Mosquitoes, ticks, fleas and fire ants.
- Recent studies indicate that healthy managed landscapes make people less stressful and improve attention and memory functions.
- Well maintained natural grass fields reduce injury rates from sports activities.
- Neighborhoods with tree-lined streets and larger yard trees have reduced crime rates.
- In order to use pesticides, I must become certified and pass an exam through my state pesticide regulator. I am also required to maintain my certification by obtaining annual certification requirements. You can mention briefing your state's applicator training requirements.
- When using pesticides on a client's lawn, I only use EPA-approved products and make sure the products and are appropriate the pest situation the client is facing. I would not use products that place people, pets, wild life or the environment at risk.
- Pesticides are regulated under the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and must undergo extensive testing before they can be registered with U.S. EPA. This regulatory review is important in ensuring that products are safe for people, pets, wildlife and the environment. Regulation under other federal laws is duplicative and does not achieve any further environmental protection.
- FIFRA is the foundation for our industry to responsibly manage landscapes and use federally and state approved products. We rely on our regulators, as the experts, to make sound scientific decisions on pesticide registration approvals and we need to trust and adequately support the process.

MAIN ASKS

- Congressional oversight of EPA policies and decisions is appropriate, however, we urge you to oppose any legislative efforts to restrict the use of specific pesticide products or classes of pesticides. Decisions about the use of specific pesticides are best left to the scientists who work in the various science divisions of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs.
- Please maintain the Fiscal 2019 funding level of \$128.3 million for the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs so that lawn care and landscape professionals can continue to access new and innovative pest management tools.